(b) Yes, Sir. The cash loss is expected to be reduced from -Rs. 83.86 crores in 1991-92 to about Rs. 58 crores in 1992-93.

(c) There has been a decline in the daily earning of DTC on its city services in September and October, 1992. The daily average income of DTC on city services during Sept., 92 was Rs. 44.29 lakhs whereas in Oct., 92 it was Rs. 40.67 lakhs only.

(d) Government have been continuously monitoring the performance of DTC with a view to improve its functioning. Increase in fuel efficiency and tyre life, reduce the number of break-downs by better maintenance practice, and economy in expenditure have been some of the measures regularly being undertaken. Plugging leakage of revenue is another measure which DTC undertakes through effective checking. Speedy disposal of scrap, route rationalisation are other measures being taken to augment the DTC revenues.

Sethusamundram Canal Project

2564. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN :

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Tamil Nadu Government regarding the Sethusamundram Canal Project;

(b) whether Government propose to implement the project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) A letter had been received from the former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal in the 8th Five Year Plan.

Road Fatalities in Delhi

2565. DR. SANIAYA SINH : WiU the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi accounts for more road fatalities than Bombay, Calcutta and Madras put together;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof during the last three years and till date; and

(c) what steps Govt, have taken or propose to take to reduce road fatalities in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of fatalities are as under :—

Cities	Years			
	1989	1990	1991	1992
Delhi	1583	1670	1820	1581 (Upto 15-11-92)
Bombay	444	400	365	288 (Upto 30-9-92)
Calcutta	468	463	452	N.A.
Madras	413	507	428*	N.A.

'(Fatal accident!. No. of total fatalities not available).

(c) .Following steps have been taken by the Delhi Traffic Police to reduce the road fatalities in Delhi :

(1) The drivers are regularly prosecuted for traffic violation.

(2) The drivers are regularly educated by the Road Safety Cell of Traffic Police through lectures, Road Safety literature, film shows, Public Announcement system etc. for safe driving.

(3) Marking on roads, bus stops and crossings have been extensively done on the roads of Delhi for proper parking of buses at the bus stops, lane driving, stop line, zebra crossing etc.

(4) Important road inter-sections are manned by traffic police.

(5) Signals have been installed at important road inter-sections.

(6) Cautions and Speed limit boards on accident prone areas/points have been put up.

(7) Over-speed checking by radar guns.

(8) Putting up of white painted drums with fluorescent top on it on the main intersection during night hours to check the speed of the vehicles.

(9) Night patrolling by traffic staff.

(10) Prosecution of reckless drivers.

(11) Temporary suspension of driving licence of the driver involved in fatal accidents.

Attacks on Container Vessels of Shipping Corporation of India

2566. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a container vessel of the Shipping Corporation of India (S.C.I.) was recently attacked by pirates in the Malacca Strait, near Malaysia^

(b) whetther it is also a fact that the number of such attacks have recently been increasing at an alarming rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government have taken/ propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. The container vessel MV Tulsidas' belonging to shipping Corporation of India (S.C.I.) was attacked in the Malacca Straits on 29-7-1992.

(b) It has been reported by the International Maritime Organisation that there has been a rise in the number of such accidents.

(c) Details in respect of foreign ships are not available with us. However, this year itself there has been another incident on 8-1-1992 on Indian vessel MT 'Ratna Deep.'

(d) These incidents are being reported to the International Maritime Organisation for necessary action. Shipping Corporation of India has also reported the matter to MALAYSIA/SINGAPORE authorities as well as to the Indian High Commissioner in these countries.

Modernisation and Diversification of Paradip Port

2567. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased *to* state :

(a) whether any plan for the modernisation and diversification of Paradip Port has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the deatils thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) An outlay of Rs. 568.48 crores Has been provided in the Eighth Plan for Paradip Port and a list of important schemes included in the Plan is given below :'

(i) Coal handling facilities with *two* Coal Berths including handling equipment;